

# ANNUAL REPORT.

## CAMELFORD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year ending  
31st December, 1936.

TO THE CHAIRMAN, VICE-CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE CAMELFORD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I herewith submit my report for the year 1936, the subjects being dealt with as set out in Circular 1561 (England) Ministry of Health.

### Social Conditions and General Characteristics.

The District comprises 13 Parishes with an acreage of 52,544 acres and a population of 7,234.

Granite and Slate Quarrying, China Clay production and Agriculture are the chief industries in the district.

The Granite Industries are situated in the St. Breward District.

China Clay Pits in the Parishes of Advent and St. Breward.

Slate Quarries at Delabole and Tintagel.

### Statistics of the Area.

Area in Acres	...	...	...	52,544
Population, 1931	...	...	...	7,548 Persons
Population, 1921	...	...	...	7,730 Persons
Population, 1934	...	...	...	7,305 Persons
Population, 1935	...	...	...	7,270 Persons
Population, 1936	...	...	...	7,234 Persons (R. G. Returns)

Parish.	Area in Acres.	Population.		Rateable Value £	Product of Penny Rate.		
		1921	1931		£	s.	d.
				1936	1936		
ADVENT	4091	199	219	392	1	17	4
DAVIDSTOWE	6853	430	393	647	3	5	8
BOSCASTLE	3881	775	692	2320	9	7	0
CAMELFORD	4000	1307	1298	3617	14	2	5
LESNEWT	2024	117	94	160	1	0	7
MICHAELSTOW	1635	198	193	457	2	3	6
OTTERHAM	3295	197	199	421	2	0	2
ST. BREWARD	9435	862	881	2601	11	6	11
ST. CLEATHER	2966	165	131	241	1	6	3
ST. JULIOT	2712	229	230	451	1	19	10
ST. TEATH	5905	1839	1893	4270	18	2	1
TINTAGEL	4422	1307	1234	5526	22	8	8
TREVALGA	1325	105	93	217	1	2	1
Totals	52544	7730	7548	21320	90	2	6

Total Rateable Value, 1935	...	...	£22,434
„ 1936	...	...	£21,320
Total Penny Rate Product, 1935	...	...	£85 12 1
„ 1936	...	...	£90 2 6
Total Number of Inhabited Houses, 1936	...	...	2,269



Causes of Death.

	M.	F.
All causes	54	52
Respiratory Tuberculosis	1	
Cancer	6	12
Diabetes	1	
Cerebral hæmorrhage	3	4
Heart disease	8	7
Other circulatory diseases	1	3
Bronchitis	1	3
Pneumonia	1	
Other respiratory diseases	2	2
Peptic ulcer	1	
Other digestive diseases	1	4
Nephritis	1	4
Congenital causes, etc.	3	3
Senility	4	2
Suicide		1
Other violence	4	1
Other defined causes	12	3
Syphilis	1	
Influenza	2	3
Diarrhoea over 2 years		1
Ill defined or N. K.		1
Other Liver disorders		2

The number of deaths for 1936 is 106 against 101 for 1935.

The number of Births for 1936 is 106 against 91 for 1935.

The number of Deaths from Cancer for 1936 is 18 against 16 for 1935.

The number of Deaths from Heart Disease for 1936 is 15 against 23 for 1935.

The number of deaths from Bronchitis for 1936 is 3 against 6 for 1935

		Total.	M.	F.	
Live Births	Legitimate	106	53	50	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 14'65
	Illegitimate		2	1	
Stillbirths	...	7	3	4	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 15'62
Deaths	...	106	54	52	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 14'65

Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List) :—

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births.)
No. 29 Puerperal sepsis	Nil	Nil
No. 30 Other puerperal causes	Nil	Nil
Total	Nil	Nil

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	47'17
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births		47'17
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births		Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	18
„ Measles (all ages)	...	Nil
„ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	Nil
„ Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	Nil

Section B.—General Provisions of Health Services for the Area.

1 MEDICAL.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.

- 1 Part time Medical Officer of Health. Qualifications—L.R.C.P. & S. (EDIN.); L.R.F.P. & S. (GLAS.)
- 2 District M.O. under P. L. Administration.  
Qualifications—L.R.C.P. & S. (EDIN.); L.R.F.P. & S. (GLAS.)
- 3 Part Time Public Vaccinator. Qualifications—L.R.C.P. & S. (EDIN.); L.R.F.P. & S. (GLAS.)

OTHERS.

- 4 Sanitary Inspector. Qualifications—C.R.S.I. (LONDON.)
- 5 Public Analysts—Benedict Kitto & Sons, F.C.S., M.I.M.M. (LONDON); and Thomas Tickle, B.Sc., F.I.C., Exeter.
- 6 1 County Council Health Visitor.
- 7 Pathologist—Dr. E. Wordley, Prince of Wales' Hospital, Plymouth.
- 8 Health Visitor—1 C. C. Health Nurse.



## 2 NURSING IN THE HOME.

1 There are Nursing Associations at Camelford, Boscastle, St. Breward, Delabole, Tintagel, St. Clether and Davidstow.

2 There are 6 Midwives (Certificated) practising in the area under C. C.

3 There is an Infant Welfare Clinic at Camelford. Meeting once a month under supervision of the Council's M.O.H.

4 LABORATORY FACILITIES.—All Pathological Specimens are sent to Dr. E. Wordley, M.D., The Prince of Wales' Hospital, Plymouth.

5 ANALYSIS (Water) (Chemical.) Samples sent to Benedict Kitto & Sons, City Road, London; and Thomas Tickle, Exeter.

6 ANALYSIS (Water) (Bacteriological.) Samples sent to Benedict Kitto & Sons, London; and Thomas Tickle, Exeter.

7 POOR LAW OUT RELIEF (MEDICAL.) This is dealt with by the Public Assistance Committee of the Cornwall County Council.

8 INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT (MENTAL.) This is dealt with at the Mental Hospital, Bodmin.

9 AMBULANCE FACILITIES. Camelford has an efficient day and night Ambulance Service.

10. HOSPITALS. (1) The Prince of Wales' Hospital, Plymouth.

(2) Royal Eye Infirmary, Plymouth.

(3) Cornwall and Devon Blind Institution, Plymouth.

(4) Rosamund House, St. Agnes, for Illegitimate Children.

11 TUBERCULOSIS. T. B. Treatment Centre, Tehidy Sanatorium, Redruth.

12 CLINICS. (1) Venereal Disease, Plymouth and Redruth.

(2) Maternity and Child Welfare. Rosamund House, St. Agnes.

13 OTHOPÆDIC TREATMENT. Arrangements have been made for Clinic Treatment at the Prince of Wales' Hospital, Plymouth, for Children under the age of 12 years. There is also a centre for treatment open at Wadebridge for children residing in this area.

14 MENTAL DEFICIENCY. Visitor appointed by the County Council, supervised by the Mental Deficiency Committee.

## Water.

The District is well supplied with water. Camelford, Boscastle and a portion of St. Breward are supplied by the Council. Bodmin Water Company supplies the other part of St. Breward.

Tintagel, Delabole and St. Teath are supplied by the North Cornwall Joint Water Board.

Some shortage was reported last Summer from houses on the high level at Delabole and complaints of discolouration of water from Tintagel.

Treveighan, Michaelstow and Churchtown, Michaelstowe, Treligga and Trevalga have their own supplies. The remainder of the District is supplied by wells.

No. of samples taken for Analysis during the year—2, which were satisfactory.

## Drainage and Sewerage.

Camelford has a Public Sewage System. Boscastle, St. Teath and Delabole are partly drained. Delabole, Tintagel, St. Breward, St. Teath and Boscastle should have an efficient system of Sewerage and Sewage Disposal and it is encouraging to record that Consultant Engineers have been engaged to report on the drainage conditions of various Parishes.

New W.C.'s constructed in lieu of pail closets	...	...	7
New pail closets constructed	...	...	3
No. of W.C.'s in the District (approximate)	...	...	1137
No. of Pail Closets in the District (approximate)	...	...	1110

## Rivers and Streams.

The chief river in the district is the Camel, which rises near Davidstow and taking a S.W. course to within a short distance of Bodmin, then turning sharply N.W. it enters the sea near Wadebridge.

Tributaries to the river Camel are the river Allen which rises near Davidstow, and the De Lank river at St. Breward.

The river Inney flows through Davidstow and St. Clether.

The main drainage of the district is by the river Camel.

## Scavenging.

This is carried out by the Local Authority. Camelford, Boscastle, St. Breward, Tintagel, St. Teath and Delabole have scavenging systems in force. Camelford has a weekly collection. Tintagel, St. Teath and Delabole are collected once a month. Boscastle is collected monthly in winter and once a fortnight in the summer months.

Scavenging should be carried out at least once a week.

## Local Government Act, 1929.

This Act is worked by the Cornwall County Council. The Public Assistance Committee of the County Council is responsible for the administration of Poor Law and Sick Relief.





Legislation and Bye-Laws in force.

- 1 Public Health Acts, 1875—1936
- 2 Public Health (Buildings and Streets Act,) 1888
- 3 Local Building Bye-laws, 1914
- 4 Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops Order, 1885-1926
- 5 County of Cornwall Act, 1929, Sections 58, 68, 69
- 6 Housing (Rural Workers) Acts, 1926—1931

Slaughter Houses.

No. in District	...	...	...	15
No. Licensed	...	...	...	6
No. Registered	...	...	...	7
No. of Knacker's Yards	...	...	...	2
No. of Inspections during the year	...	...	...	110
No. of Notices served	...	...	...	17

The Butchers' Shops on the whole are clean, well ventilated and lighted. There are no open-air stalls and most of the meat is delivered by motor vehicles.

Milk.

There are 270 Registered Cowsheds, Dairies and Milk Shops in the District. Several Schools are receiving a daily supply of milk. Grade A.

Rag Flock Act, 1911—1928.

No action necessary during the year.

Smoke Abatement.

No action necessary.

Foods.

No action necessary during the year.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

None in the District controlled by the Local Authority.

Playing Fields.

Camelford has a Public Park and St. Teath a Playing Field, and it is very gratifying to record that Delabole has recently purchased a Playing Field at the cost of £700 which it is proposed to open in the Spring of 1938.

The importance of Playing Fields and open spaces cannot be over-estimated.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1936.

Disease.				Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil
Diphtheria	...	...	...	2	Nil	1
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil
Pnerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil
Pneumonia	...	...	...	2	Nil	Nil
Other diseases generally notifiable (specify disease)	...	...	...			
Other diseases notifiable locally (specify disease)	...	...	...			
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	5	Nil	Nil

During the latter part of the year there was a severe epidemic of Mumps, affecting adults and children alike.





Tuberculosis.

New Cases and Mortality during 1936.

Age-Periods.			New Cases.				Deaths.			
			Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...								
1	...	...								
5	...	...								
15	...	...								
25	...	...								
35	...	...								
45	...	...								
55	...	...								
65 and upwards	...	...	1							
Total	...	...	1							

Housing.

A considerable part of the early portion of the year was taken up with the survey of overcrowding, 771 houses were inspected, tabulated and reported to The Ministry of Health, within the prescribed time.

The Housing Rural Workers' Act has helped considerably in relieving overcrowding and if full advantage was taken of this Act, the greater majority of the cases could be dealt with. Every opportunity should be taken of the advantages of this Act as it is the means of considerably improving the housing conditions of the lower paid workers and it is very gratifying to record that 76 cases have been completed in this district.

Nine new houses have been constructed by private enterprise during the year.

1 Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	120
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	192
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	95
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	122
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	5
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	9

2 Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	23
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3 Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—

(a)—Proceedings under sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930 :			
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—			
(a)	By owners	...	Nil
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	...	Nil
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :			
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	1
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—		
(a)	By Owners	...	1
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	...	Nil
(c)—Proceedings under sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act 1930 :			
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	Nil
(d)—Proceedings under section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 :			
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made		2
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	Nil



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4. *Housing Act, 1935.—Overcrowding :—*

(a).— (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	...	15
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	...	15
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	...	90
(b).— Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	Nil
(c).— (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	8
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	...	53½

On the whole the conditions in the District are healthy and progress is being made.

I would however again call your attention to the necessity (as previously mentioned) for hastening on the sewage schemes for various parishes.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

*Wm Haydon*

Camelford, 24th June, 1937.

Medical Officer of Health.

